



## RYE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TERM THREE



# The Starfish Story

(adapted from The Star Thrower by Loren Eiseley)

One day a man was walking along the beach, when he noticed a boy hurriedly picking up and gently throwing things into the ocean...

Approaching the boy, he asked, "Young man, what are you doing?" The boy replied, "Throwing starfish back into the ocean. The surf is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them back, they'll die."

The man laughed to himself and said, "Don't you realize there are miles and miles of beach and hundreds of starfish? You can't make any difference!"

After listening politely, the boy bent down, picked up another starfish, and threw it into the surf. Then, smiling at the man, he said,

**"I made a difference to that one."**

It is an absolute privilege to be able to make a difference in the lives of young people in Rye. Remember, that the positive difference we can all make today, causes ripples, which can turn into waves and then tides that bring change.

Be a tide turner!

Best Wishes,

Miss Martin

Headteacher



# STARFISH



In Starfish we have been learning about technology. We enjoyed learning to use the Beebots . We have also been playing games and drawing on the interactive white board. We really enjoyed making our robots with junk modelling. Over the next few weeks we will be learning about space and we love playing in the space rocket we have made!



# MINNOWS



This term has been very busy for the Minnows class as they researched the Polar regions and became Scientists; completing their own experiments around magnetism, floating, sinking, freezing and melting. In addition, they all enjoyed trying some soy milk, green tea, and fruit desserts from China as we learned about how the Lunar New Year is celebrated around the world.





# CLOWNFISH



Clownfish have had a great term learning all about the Great Fire of London. We have completed a setting description about the fire and looked at a time line of the event. The children completed some lovely tissue paper and chalk fire art which most of you observed in our amazing sharing assembly.

The Clownfish children have really enjoyed this topic and are very secure at remembering many facts about the fire.



# SEAHORSES



In Seahorses we have absolutely loved learning about the Great Fire of London. We have found out so many facts, including how the fire spread so quickly due to the wind and the houses being built closely together. We have enjoyed reading Toby and the Great Fire of London by Margaret Nash and used our senses of sight, smell, taste, sound and touch to write some fantastic setting descriptions. We have worked hard to use our imaginations and collect a range of exciting vocabulary within our writing. On our D.T. day we made a variety of bread rolls, complete with sesame seed, pumpkin seed or poppy seed toppings and they tasted delicious. It was a fun new experience learning how to knead the dough and understanding how the yeast works to make the dough rise whilst the bread is proving.

In Art we have produced some brilliant fire pictures using sugar paper, chalks and silhouettes as well as experimenting with tissue paper.







# SEA TURTLES



Sea Turtles have thoroughly enjoyed their Great Fire of London topic. In English, they have written some amazing descriptive pieces about, 'Toby and the Great Fire of London'.

In art, Sea Turtles have created some colourful Great Fire of London chalk drawings and collages.

In science, we have been learning about everyday materials, their properties and uses.

The highlight of the term so far has been our visit from Rye Fire Brigade. The children had the opportunity to sit in the fire engine, learn about the different fire fighting apparatus the fire fighters use and man the hose. They also learnt some very important information on fire safety.



# CUTTLEFISH





# ORCAS



Orcas Class have been amazing at creating their own chariots, learning new vocabulary such as axles and prototypes along the way. Frankie wasn't in class for our DT Day, but he was so inspired by the chariots that he created his own chariot at home! I am very proud of Orcas class for their superb effort and the new skills they have demonstrated in the making of these chariots!



# MARLIN



This term in Marlin we have been following Shackleton and his men on their laborious journey to Antarctica. We have looked at the harsh conditions and brutal weather that they faced throughout the expedition. We have written a diary entry as once of the members of the crew, looking at the jobs that were undertaken and emotional strain of the troubles that they faced. We researched different animals that live in the Antarctica, combining our learning in science to look at how these animals have adapted over time to withstand the harsh conditions of Antarctica. Our notes from this research will support us in completing a non-chronological report on our animal of choice.



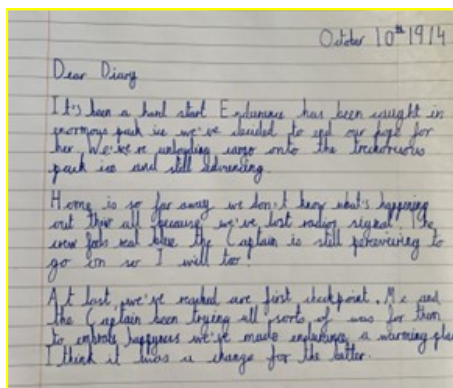
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# DOLPHINS



A busy start to 2023 for Dolphins! This term, we have been learning about Shackleton's expedition as part of our 'Frozen Kingdom' topic. We have focused on mountain ranges - creating potato contours - written fantastic diary entries from the perspective of a polar explorer, as well as writing our own non-chronological reports based on Arctic animals. In Music, we are learning how to play 'Make You Feel My Love' on the ukulele - this is a work in progress!



## Starfish Uniform

We're delighted to share photos of our new Starfish Jumper and Polo Shirt. These are available to purchase from our uniform supplier Superstitch - please call 01424 852225 to place an order by phone. The online ordering facility will be available from next week - Superstitch 86 | School Uniform and Workwear Specialists





# Attendance News



Whole school attendance currently stands at 92.9%, please see the table below for your child's class attendance and the number of late marks their class has received so far this academic year.

Registration Form	Present R/C Marks	Auth. Absent R/C Marks	Unauth. Absent R/C Marks	Late R/C Marks
Minnows	89.5%	8.8%	1.6%	86
Clown Fish	91.8%	6.4%	1.8%	89
Seahorses	93.5%	4.5%	1.9%	36
Sea Turtle	93.3%	3.9%	2.8%	64
Cuttlefish	93.2%	4.3%	2.6%	55
Orcas	93.1%	4.3%	2.7%	75
Marlin	94.2%	3.9%	1.8%	79
Dolphins	93.9%	4.4%	1.7%	34

## School Timings

We would like to remind you that the school day starts at 8.30am and finishes at 3.00pm

More and more children are arriving late to school each morning. Children must be in school by 8:45am. Children arriving after this time miss out on their early

morning learning time and disrupt the rest of the class when arriving late.

We have also had a significant increase in parents being late collecting their child from school and after school clubs. Please arrive on time, teachers have other commitments after school, such as staff meetings and after school clubs.

We have also had a number of parents needing to collect before the end of the school day. This not only interrupts the school office but subsequently the class and their learning when the office has to call in the middle of lesson time. Please, where possible book medical appointments outside of school hours.

Thank you for your consideration and understanding

**SCHOOL  
HOURS**



As you will be aware, this year we have been sending personalised, **RAG-rated** attendance letters for your child(ren), each term. If your child's attendance is below 95% we would like to be able to work with you and your child to see this improve, before we issue the next **RAG-rated** letter at the end of Term 4.

We do have various support measures to help with this; so if you would like some advice please speak to Miss Martin or Mrs Homewood on the school gate, in the morning, or call into the school office and speak to Mrs James or Mrs Cruttenden. We also have the support of Kate Ates our EWO (Education Welfare Officer), who is working with us and other local schools, throughout this year. She has been making contact and meeting with parents when attendance becomes a concern.

We want the best for all our children and to help them succeed; for us to be able to do this children need to be attending school everyday, unless they are too unwell to do so.

Regular attendance ensures children keep up in lessons, understand and retain the subject knowledge they are being taught, they also form and maintain strong friendship groups.

Please help us to help your child Dream, Believe and Achieve.



# You Said: We did

You may remember that we periodically send out surveys to our parents to find out what is working well and what we could make even better... well, we would like to do this even more regularly- so please do look out for future surveys and complete them, so that we can better understand your thoughts.

In each newsletter we will endeavour to share things that you have suggested, which we then have been able to implement... You said: We did:

You said: more after school clubs:

We did: We currently have the school's widest ever selection of clubs running- with at least one club running every night, more usually between 2 and 4 clubs running each night- there really is something for everyone.

You said: opportunities for music tuition in school time:

We did: We have sought new providers for music lessons and more children are now able to access guitar, violin and rock band lessons, within the school day.

You said: Pre-school parents asked for a pre-school uniform to be re-introduced.

We did: You will see from our newsletter, how very smart our new pre-school uniform looks. We even went with a practical colour, to make washing much easier!

If you do have any further suggestions for improvement or solutions to something that has been niggling away at you- we are always ready to hear them and act on them if feasible. Please contact the school office in the first instance at [office@ryeprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@ryeprimary.co.uk). To help us to direct your email- please add "You said: We did" to the subject line.

# Have you ever?

To enrich our children's learning further, the Children's Leadership Team, have been thinking of ideas of how to try new things. During these discussions, the children latched on to the phrase "Have you ever?". It was in this moment that as a leadership team, an idea was born.... the "[have you ever challenges?...](#)" We had conversations from the really adventurous- "Have you ever bungee jumped?" (everyone said no thankfully) to "have you ever eaten a pomegranate?" (not many had tried these either). The children then wanted to come up with a plan to try out some of these "Have you ever" ideas in school. We explained that the bungee jumping was never going to happen- but that we could buy some exotic fruits to try.

Therefore, over the next few terms- we are going to aim to try at least one new experience a term....

The list so far looks like this:

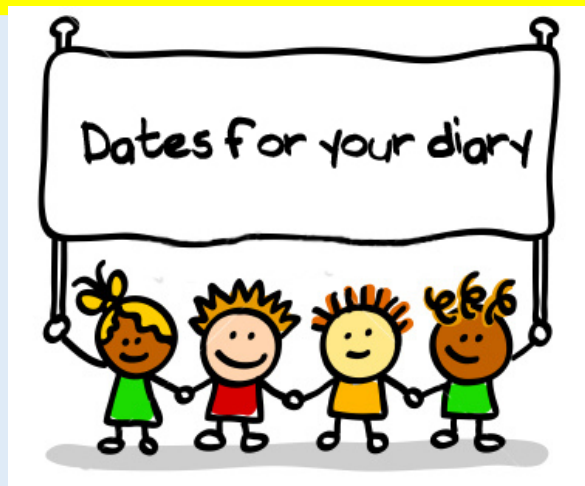
- 1.learn to knit
- 2.Try new fruits
3. learn morse code
4. walk a dog (a risk assessment and permission form will be sent out before this happens).

We have asked all children in assembly to give their ideas to their class representative in the children's leadership team.

We hope over the next few terms that your children will be enthused by the "Have you ever challenges?" We hope that these challenges will inspire rich discussion and perhaps lead to further discoveries or new skills or knowledge and may enthuse all children to try new things. Watch this space!

This is also a good time to remind parents that it is imperative that we have up to date allergy information for all children to ensure that they can participate in activities involving food or other possible allergens. Please speak to the office if you need support completing this on Arbor.





Thursday 9th February: Parent Consultations

Thursday 9th February: Dress to Express and Family Coffee Afternoon to support Children's Mental Health Week

Friday 10th February: Inset Day (school closed to all pupils)

Monday 13– Friday 17th February Half Term Holiday

Monday 20th February: Start of Term 4 and Rye Book Week focusing on poetry.

Friday 24th February: Wear Yellow to support St Michaels Hospice

Friday 24th February: Sharing Assembly

Monday 27th February: Marlin Library Visit

Thursday 2nd March: Potential Industrial Action

Friday 3rd March: Money Matters Workshop with Mrs Homewood

Friday 3rd March: Year R, Childhood Measurement Programme

Friday 3rd March : World Book Day and Minnows Sharing Assembly

Monday 6th March: Orcas Library Visit

Thursday 9th March—Year 5 visiting Houses of Parliament

Friday 10th March: Money Matters Workshop with Mrs Homewood

Friday 10th March: Dolphins Sharing Assembly

Monday 13th March: Cuttlefish Library Visit and start of Science week.

Wednesday 15th March: Potential Industrial Action

Thursday 16th March: Potential Industrial Action

Friday 17th March: Red Nose Day

Friday 17th March: Marlin Sharing Assembly

Friday 17th March: Money Matters Workshop with Mrs Homewood

Monday 20th March: Seahorses Library Visit

Friday 24th March: Money Matters Workshop with Mrs Homewood

Friday 24th March: Sea Turtles Sharing Assembly

Monday 27th March: Sea Turtles Library Visit

Friday 31st March: Last Day of Term, School finishes at 1.30pm

Monday 3rd April– Friday 14th April: Easter Holiday



Monday 17th April: Start of Term 5

Monday 24th April: Clownfish Library Visit

Monday 1st May: Early May Bank Holiday

Tuesday 2nd May: Minnow Library Visit

Monday 8th May: Bank Holiday for the King's Coronation

Tuesday 9th May: KS2 SATs Week

Friday 26th May: Last Day of Term

Monday 29th May– Friday 2nd June: Half Term Holiday

Monday 5th June: Start of Term 6

Monday 12th– Thursday 15th June: Sarah Prescott Photographer, class and individual photos

Tuesday 27th June– EYFS Sports Day

Wednesday 28th June– KS1 Sports Day

Thursday 29th June– KS2 Sports Day

Thursday 6th and Friday 7th July: Y6 transition days to Rye College

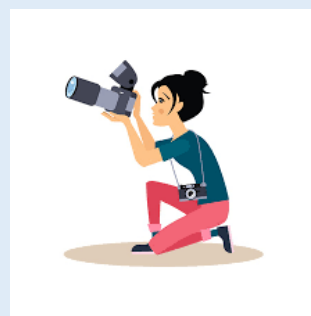
w/c Monday 10th July– Y6 Bikeability

Wednesday 19th July: Last Day of Term, School Closes at 1.30pm

Thursday 20th July: Inset Day (school closed to children)

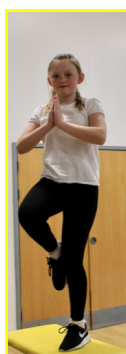
Friday 21st July: Inset Day (school closed to children)

Monday 24th July: Summer Holiday Begins



## After School Gymnastics!

Here are a few pictures of the after school gymnastics club we offer run by Liam Sayer. If you are interested please contact the school office.



**We hope you have a lovely half term and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 20th February.**

**New Clubs coming soon for Parents and Children.....**

**Please click on the booking links below to secure your place**

## **Making Learning Fun**

**Weekly sessions @ Rye  
Community Primary School**

**Thursdays 09:30-11:30am  
Starting 20th April for 6 weeks!**

**Parents and  
kids welcome  
together**

**Make  
personalised  
games!**



**Contact [frantrainingsussex@gmail.com](mailto:frantrainingsussex@gmail.com)  
or call 07814418478 to join!**

[Family Learning Booking Link](#)

[Forest School Booking Link](#)

## **FOREST SCHOOL**

**PARENTS AND KIDS  
WELCOME TOGETHER**

**WEEKLY SESSIONS @  
RYE COMMUNITY  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**MONDAYS 3-5PM  
STARTING 19TH  
JUNE FOR 4  
WEEKS**

**JOIN US FOR SOME  
FAMILY FUN  
OUTDOORS!**

**TO BOOK PLEASE EMAIL  
[FRANTRAININGSUSSEX@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FRANTRAININGSUSSEX@GMAIL.COM)  
OR CALL 07814418478!**

